**Mr. V. B. Vaidyanatha Ayyar.**—Now, we auction the shops. At the time of the auction, if you say that we want to reduce the number of trees, and that we want only to give so many trees, I think there will be some justification. After the auction, if we say that we are going to limit the number, there will be no justification. But we do not limit the number of trees at the time of auction.

**President.**—Then, how are we to reach our goal?

**Mr. V. B. Vaidyanatha Ayyar.**—By steadily increasing the tree-tax and putting difficulty on the purse of the consumers who go in for drink and making drink as dear as possible, we can reach our goal. That is what I am doing.

**Mr. K. T. Mathew.**—In your answer you referred to the climate and the want of timely rainfall. May I know, Sir, how the climate has affected, and whether this year we were suffering from want of timely rains?

**Mr. V. B. Vaidyanatha Ayyar.**—This year it is well-known that the quantity of rainfall was less than that of last year.

**President.**—Whether there was enough rainfall or not, that might probably be a matter of opinion.

**Mr. V. B. Vaidyanatha Ayyar.**—That is what we found.

**Mr. K. T. Mathew.**—Does the Government keep accounts to know what is the yield per tree, what is the quantity required for each shop, and what is the total consumption of toddy per year in the State?

**Mr. V. B. Vaidyanatha Ayyar.**—We can calculate roughly. There is the tree tapping license from which we can find out the quantity that is transported to each shop, and as regards the quantity of toddy consumed annually in the State, it can be found out approximately from the number of trees, and their average yield.

**Mr. K. T. Mathew.**—What is the approximate yield per tree till now this year?

**Mr. V. B. Vaidyanatha Ayyar.**—I want notice.

## Liquor shops.

68. **Mr. K. T. Mathew.**—Will the Government be pleased to state how many arrack, toddy and foreign liquor shops have been sanctioned for 1103 and how many shops have been reduced for 1103 from those for 1102 in each case?

**Mr. V. B. Vaidyanatha Ayyar.**—

| | 1102. | 1103. | Reduction. |
|---|---|---|---|
| No. of arrack shops | 241 | 230 | 11 |
| No. of toddy shops | 441 | 429 | 12 |

The number of foreign liquor shops for 1103 has not yet been fixed.

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